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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A firing mechanism of an explosively actuated tool for driving a fastener into a substrate includes a cocking rod and sear for entraining the firing pin with the firing pin being releasable on cocking by rotation of the sear. The cocking rod and sear form a structure subject to an axial and rotational bias by a coil spring anchored at one end to the structure and at the opposite end to a mounting which during assembly of the mechanism is rotated to apply torsional loading to the spring and is then locked into a housing of the mechanism in an angular orientation in which torsional loading is maintained in the spring.